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# Scirtidae of India and Sri Lanka. Part 3. Status of *Cyphon pictus* var. *ceylonicus* PIC, 1918 with description of a related species (Insecta: Coleoptera)

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ABSTRACT. The study of the holotype of *Cyphon pictus* var. *ceylonicus* resulted in elevating it to a species level and transferring to *Ypsilocyphon* KLAUSNITZER. *Ypsilocyphon ceylonicus* (PIC) stat. et comb. nov. is redescribed and illustrated; *Ypsilocyphon pseudoceylonicus* n. sp. from Sri Lanka is described and illustrated.

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, Coleoptera, Scirtidae, *Cyphon*, *Ypsilocyphon*, new status, new species, Sri Lanka.

## INTRODUCTION

After examination of the holotype of *Cyphon pictus* MOTSCHULSKY, 1848, which revealed to belong to Melyrinae (RUTA 2009), it seemed inevitable to verify the status of its variety, *Cyphon pictus* var. *ceylonicus* PIC, 1918. The holotype was found in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris. As it was suspected, the specimen is distinct from *Cyphon pictus* MOTSCHULSKY. According to the ICZN article 45.6, the name “*ceylonicus*” following a binomen published before 1961 as a “variety” is subspecific. It is elevated to the species level, and transferred to *Ypsilocyphon* KLAUSNITZER; its redescription is presented below.

Among rich material of Oriental Scirtidae deposited in the Hungarian Museum of Natural History, a specimen closely resembling *Ypsilocyphon ceylonicus* was found. It represents an unknown species, described below.

Both species belong to the second subgroup of the *Ypsilocyphon* (*sensu* RUTA 2007, KLAUSNITZER 2009). World check-list of species included in the group and descriptions of several taxa from India and Sri Lanka were presented in RUTA 2007.

## METHODS

Total length is measured from above and extends from the anterior edge of pronotum to the apex of elytra. Head length is measured from the anterior edge of clypeus to the anterior edge of pronotum. Elytra length is measured along the suture from the base of the scutellum to the apex of elytra. The shape of pronotum is described when observed in perpendicular view. The terminology of male genital structures follows RUTA (2007). Helicon Focus software was used to produce the photographs, and Photoshop CS to enhance the images.

Measurements are given in millimetres. The following abbreviations were used in the text: L – length; W – width.

## Depositories:

MNHN – Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris

HMNH – Hungarian Museum of Natural History, Budapest

## SYSTEMATIC PART

***Ypsiloncyphon ceylonicus* (Pic, 1918), stat. et comb. nov.**

(Figs. 1, 3-9)

= *Cyphon pictus* var. *ceylonicus* Pic, 1918

## TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype (male): “Anuradhapura / W. Horn 1899” [printed label]; “Cyphon sp” [label handwritten by Pic]; “pictus var” [label handwritten by Pic]; “v. ceylonicus / Pic” [label handwritten by Pic]; “type” [yellowish label handwritten by Pic]; “HOLO-TYPUS / Cyphon pictus v. / ceylonicus / Pic, 1918” [red label added by R. Ruta in 2008]. Deposited in MNHN.

## ADDITIONAL MATERIAL STUDIED

1 male: “Sri Lanka / Southern Province / Galle Distrikt” [printed label]; “Habarduwa / 20.8.-4.9.1982 / H. J. Bremer leg.” [printed label]. Deposited in HMNH.

## DIAGNOSIS

Externally resembling *Ypsiloncyphon karnatakaensis* (RUTA, 2007) and *Y. pseudo-ceylonicus* n. sp., from which it is easily separable on the basis of the morphology of sternite IX, which is Y-shaped in *Y. ceylonicus*, and U-shaped in *Y. karnatakaensis* and *Y. pseudoceylonicus*.

## REDESCRIPTION

*Holotype, male.* Body oval, moderately convex, pronotum covered with whitish, and elytra with brownish suberect hairs. Elytra and scutellum brown, pronotum and head orange. Underside of head and prosternum yellow, mesoventrite, metaventrite and

abdomen dark brown. Legs and mouthparts yellow, antennae yellow, apical antennomere somewhat darkened. Total length 1.73, greatest pronotal width 0.80, greatest elytral width 1.15, greatest depth of body 0.78. Body 1.5 times as long as broad.

The greatest width of head 0.60, head width 1.6X its length, 1.7 times wider than width of interocular space, with distinct granulate punctation and moderately protuberant eyes. Antennae filiform, moderately long – reaching basal 1/3 of elytra, length ratio of antennomeres 1.6 : 1.2 : 1.0 : 1.6 : 1.2 : 1.2 : 1.2 : 1.2 : 1.2 : 1.2 : 1.8; L/W ratio of antennomeres 1.6, 1.5, 1.7, 2.0, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.8. Anterior clypeal margin subtly arcuate, anterolateral angles right-angled. Labrum transverse, subrectangular, with rounded anterior angles.

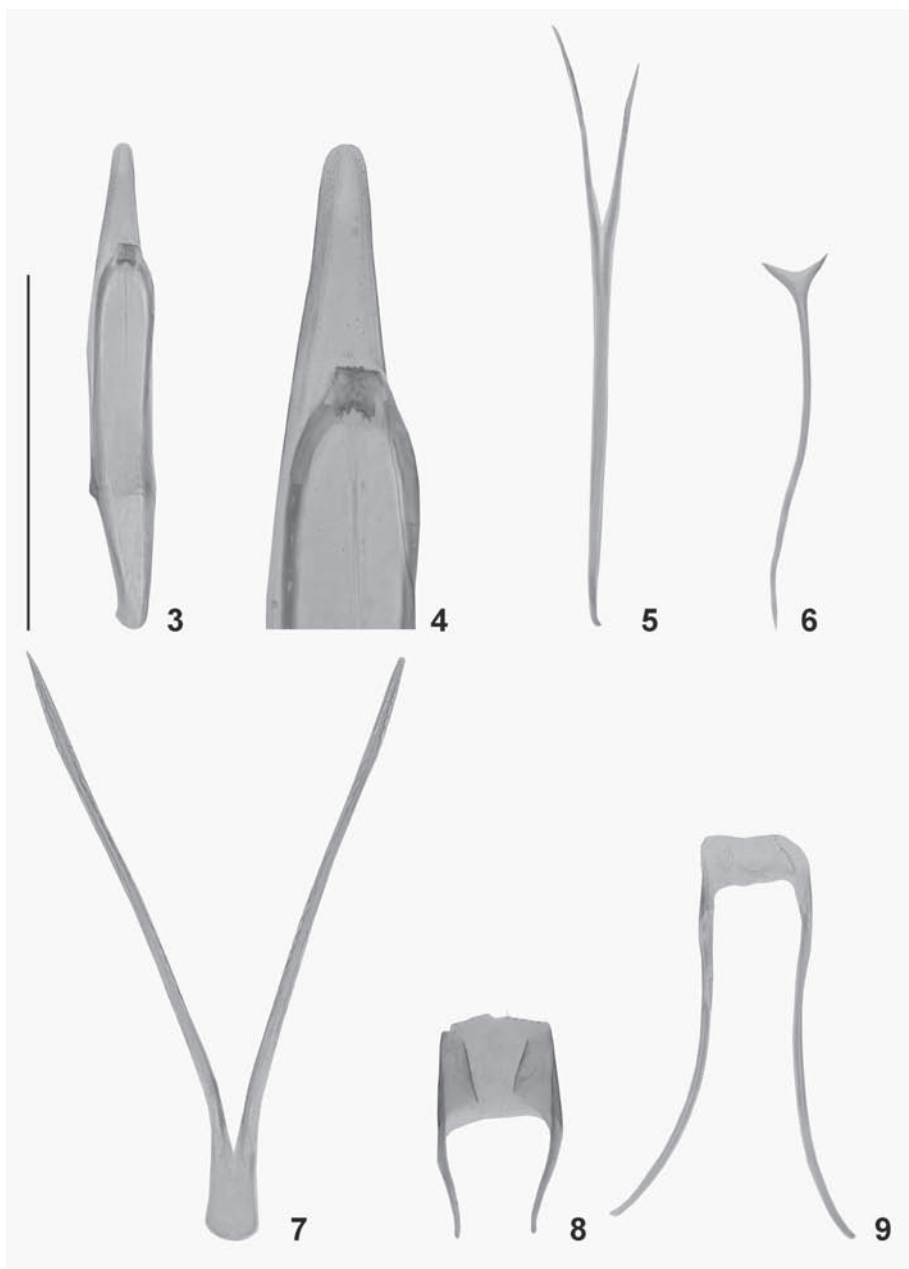
Pronotum small, width 2.3X its length, widest in posterior half. Disc of pronotum with fine granulate punctation, similar to that on head. Posterior margin of pronotum bisinuate; anterior angles slightly produced. Lateral margins slightly rounded. Base of elytra evenly wider than base of pronotum. Scutellum subtriangular, as long as wide, almost impunctate.

Elytra with three longitudinal ridges, length 1.5X its width and 5.0X length of pronotum. Sides rounded and regularly converging to apex in posterior 1/3. Adsutural portion of elytra slightly elevated in posterior half of elytra. Humeri clearly evident. Punctuation dense and strong, punctures separated by ca. 1.0 diameter. Epipleura light brown, reduced in apical 1/4 of elytra. Hind wings fully developed.

Prosternal process 1.5 times as long as wide, tear-shaped, with rounded apex and sparse setae at apical margin. Mesocoxae separated by a relatively long process which



1-2. Habitus. 1 – *Ypsilocyphon ceylonicus* (Pic), holotype and labels; 2 – *Ypsilocyphon pseudoceylonicus* n. sp., holotype. Scale bar = 0.5 mm



3-9. Male genitalia of *Ypsilonocyphon ceylonicus* (Pic). 3 – penis; 4 – penis, close-up of apex; 5 – tegmen; 6 – sternite VIII; 7 – sternite IX; 8 – tergite VIII; 9 – tergite IX. Scale bar = 0.5 mm

is dilating posteriorly (length about 2.0X greatest width), truncate at apex, metaventral discripen complete. Ratio of ventrites' lengths: 1.0 : 1.7 : 1.7 : 1.7 : 1.8. Last ventrite regularly rounded.

Male genitalia. Penis (L=0.70, W=0.09) symmetrical, apical portion triangularly narrowed, with rounded apex, trigonium subrectangular, curved ventrally, with minute denticles on apex. Tegmen (L=0.85, W=0.14) long, Y-shaped. Sternite VIII (L=0.52, W=0.10) bifid apically, with a single, long apodeme. Sternite IX (L=0.82, W=0.22) large, Y-shaped, with sculptured arms. Tergite VIII (L=0.31, W=0.22) subtrapezoidal, apodemes as long as apical portion, setation on apical margin sparse. Tergite IX (L=0.58, W=0.21) long, apical plate short, membranous, apodemes long.

Variation. Total length of the second specimen studied 1.87.

#### DISTRIBUTION

Known from central and southern Sri Lanka.

### *Ypsilocyphon pseudoceylonicus* n. sp.

(Figs. 2, 10-17)

#### TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype (male): "Sri Lanka / Southern Province / Galle Distrikt" [printed label]; "Habaraduwa / 20.8.-4.9.1982 / H. J. Bremer leg." [printed label]. Deposited in HMNH.

#### DIAGNOSIS

Externally resembling *Ypsilocyphon ceylonicus* (PIC, 1918) and *Y. karnatakaensis* (RUTA, 2007). Easily separable from *Y. ceylonicus* on the basis of the morphology of sternite IX, which is U-shaped in *Y. ceylonicus*, and Y-shaped in *Y. pseudoceylonicus*. Two features allow certain separation of *Y. pseudoceylonicus* from *Y. karnatakaensis*: inner sides of arms of sternite IX with rows of minute denticles in *Y. pseudoceylonicus*, smooth in *Y. karnatakaensis*; penis with relatively wide, bifid apex, trigonium narrow in *Y. pseudoceylonicus*, in contrast to narrow, triangular apex of penis and wide trigonium in *Y. karnatakaensis*.

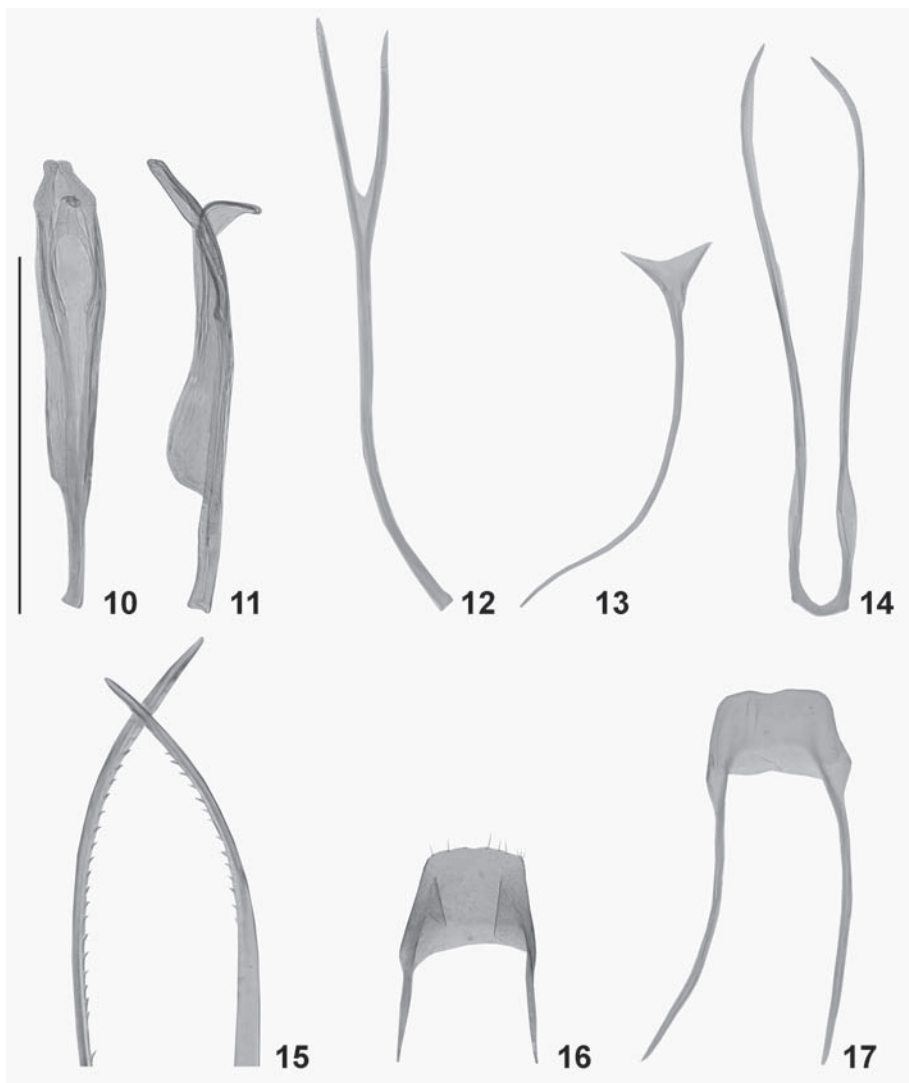
#### REDESCRIPTION

*Holotype, male.* Body oval, moderately convex, covered with whitish suberect hairs. Elytra and scutellum brown, pronotum and head orange. Underside of head and prosternum yellow, mesoventrite, metaventrite and abdomen dark brown. Legs and mouthparts yellow, antennae yellow. Total length 1.60, greatest pronotal width 0.74, greatest elytral width 1.10, greatest depth of body 0.70. Body 1.5 times as long as broad.

The greatest width of head 0.56, head width 1.5X its length, 1.6 times wider than width of interocular space, with distinct granulate punctuation and moderately protuberant eyes. Antennae filiform, only five basal antennomeres present in the holotype, length ratio of antennomeres 1.8 : 1.5 : 1.0 : 1.3 : 1.3; L/W ratio of antennomeres 1.4, 1.5,

1.6, 1.7, 1.7. Anterior clypeal margin subtly arcuate, anterolateral angles right-angled. Labrum transverse, subrectangular, with rounded anterior angles.

Pronotum small, width 2.5X its length, widest in posterior half. Disc of pronotum with fine granulate punctation, similar to that on head. Posterior margin of pronotum bisinuate; anterior angles slightly produced. Lateral margins slightly rounded. Base of elytra evenly wider than base of pronotum. Scutellum subtriangular, as long as wide, almost impunctate.



10-19. Male genitalia of *Ypsilocyphon pseudoceylonicus* n. sp. 10 – penis; 11 – penis, lateral view; 12 – tegmen; 13 – sternite VIII; 14 – sternite IX; 15 – sternite IX, close-up of apices; 16 – tergite VIII; 17 – tergite IX. Scale bar = 0.5 mm

Elytra without conspicuous longitudinal ridges, length 1.2X its width and 4.4X length of pronotum. Sides rounded and regularly converging to apex in posterior 1/3. Adsutural portion of elytra slightly elevated in posterior half of elytra. Humeri clearly evident. Punctuation dense and strong, punctures separated by ca. 1.0 diameter. Epipleura brown, reduced in apical 1/4 of elytra. Hind wings fully developed.

Prosternal process 1.5 times as long as wide, tear-shaped, with rounded apex and sparse setae at apical margin. Mesocoxae separated by a relatively long process which is dilating posteriorly (length about 2.0X greatest width), truncate at apex, metaventral discrimen complete. Ratio of ventrites' lengths: 1.0 : 1.8 : 1.8 : 1.8 : 1.9. Last ventrite regularly rounded.

Male genitalia. Penis (L=0.62, W=0.10) symmetrical, apical portion triangular, short, apex bifid, slightly curved dorsally, trigonium narrow, strongly curved ventrally, without denticles on apex. Tegmen (L=0.84, W=0.12) long, Y-shaped. Sternite VIII (L=0.56, W=0.12) bifid apically, with a single, long apodeme. Sternite IX (L=0.78, W=0.17) large, U-shaped, arms with rows of minute denticles on inner sides. Tergite VIII (L=0.30, W=0.24) subtrapezoidal, apodemes as long as apical portion, setation on apical margin sparse. Tergite IX (L=0.54, W=0.22) long, apical plate short, apodemes long.

#### DISTRIBUTION

Known from southern Sri Lanka.

#### ETYMOLOGY

Name refers to the external similarity to *Ypsiloncyphon ceylonicus* (Pic).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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